Docket No.: Y0647.0162 (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Keiichi Chono et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: August 18, 2006

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

For: IMAGE ENCODING METHOD, DEVICE

THEREOF, AND CONTROL PROGRAM

THEREOF

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 17 of this paper.